

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-06 /033 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8768

UNCLAS MADRID 670

DEPARTMENT PASS TO FDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECEM, SWEL, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE: SHORTAGE OF DIABETES
MEDICATION

1. SPANISH HEALTH AUTHORITIES (DIRECCION GENERAL DE SANIDAD) ON JANUARY 27 REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE TO ALLEVIATE SHORTAGE OF MEDICATION "PETRUSSIN TANNATE," PRODUCT OF PARKE-DAVIS LABORATORY, WHICH USED BY DIABETICS. BASIC SITUATION, WHICH EMBASSY VERIFIED WITH MR. DIAZ, DIRECTOR OF PARKE-DAVIS SPAIN, ARE FOLLOWING: IN PAST PARKE-DAVIS IN DETROIT SUPPLIED PARKE-DAVIS SPAIN WITH RAW MATERIALS FOR MEDICINE, WHICH CONSISTED OF HORMONE EXTRACTED FROM BONE MARROW OF CATTLE. HOWEVER, NEW SYSTEM FOR SLAUGHTERING CATTLE WHICH REQUIRED BY US REGULATIONS DESTROYS BONE MARROW, THUS ELIMINATING SOURCE OF HORMONE.

2. MR. DIAZ SAID THAT PARKE-DAVIS IS WORKING ON SYNTHETIC METHOD FOR PRODUCING PETRUSSIN, BUT WILL BE AT LEAST SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE AVAILABLE. ACCORDING TO DIAZ PRESENT SHORTAGE OF MEDICINE IS WORLD-WIDE, INCLUDING US, PARKE-DAVIS HAS ADVISED HEALTH AUTHORITIES OF SITUATION AND PROVIDED NAMES OF SUBSTITUTE MEDICATIONS. LATTER REPORTEDLY NOT AS EFFECTIVE AS PETRUSSIN AND SOME DIABETICS FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CHANGE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS ADVISED DIRECCION GENERAL DE SANIDAD
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THAT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT IMMEDIATE SOLUTION TO SHORTAGE CAN BE FOUND, SINCE US ITSELF FACES SIMILAR PROBLEM. HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FDA VERIFICATION OF ABOVE INFORMATION AND ANY ADVICE WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SPANISH AUTHORITIES IN THIS MATTER.
STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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